

PERSONAL EXEMPTION

You may be eligible to reduce all or a portion of the taxes assessed on your domicile if you meet the qualifications for one of the personal exemptions allowed under Massachusetts law. Qualifications vary, but generally relate to age, ownership, residency, disability, income or assets. You may be eligible for an exemption if you fall into any of the following categories:

- Seniors - Age 70 and older that meet income and asset criteria
- Seniors - Age 70 and older that meet asset criteria
- Surviving Spouse
- Minor child of deceased parent
- Gold Star Parent
- Veteran with service-connected disability (or surviving spouse who has not remarried)
- Veteran who received a Purple Heart (or surviving spouse who has not remarried)
- Veteran who received a Service Cross or Congressional Medal of Honor (or surviving spouse)
- Veteran line of duty loss (or permanent loss of use) of one foot, hand or eye (or surviving spouse)
- Veteran line of duty loss (or permanent loss of use) of both feet, hands or eyes (or surviving spouse)
- Veteran line of duty total disability and incapable of working (or surviving spouse)
- Veterans who are certified by the Veterans Administration as paraplegic (surviving spouse)
- Veterans Total Disability and specially adapted housing (or surviving spouse)

The above links provide additional information as well as a link to the appropriate application. Applications are also available at the Assessors' office. In order to obtain an exemption for which you are qualified, you must file an application in writing on an approved form with the assessors. The assessors' office will accept exemption applications anytime after July 1 for the current fiscal year; if the application is received and approved before the tax file is created the exemption will appear on the actual tax bill when it is mailed in December. The filing deadline for an exemption is 3 months after the date tax bills were mailed. Any approved applications that are received after the tax file has been created will receive a certificate indicating the amount of the exemption. **Applications must be filed every year. Information collected with regards to personal exemptions is considered confidential and is not public record.** Any further questions regarding personal exemptions, please contact the Assessors' office at 863-3200 Ext. 204 or assessorclerk2@montague-ma.gov.

Applications are timely filed when (1) received by the assessors on or before the filing deadline, or (2) mailed by United States mail, first class postage prepaid, to the proper address of the assessors, on or before the filing deadline, as shown by a postmark made by the United States Postal Service. If your application is not timely filed, the assessors cannot by law grant an exemption.